

ABSTRACT

Method and apparatus for handling a base transceiver station that has become orphaned as a result of a loss of a base station controller. The method includes determining that contact has been lost between a base transceiver station and a primary base station controller that normally controls the base transceiver station, identifying a secondary base station controller to adopt the base transceiver station, and effecting a handover of the base transceiver station from the primary base station controller to the secondary base station controller. The invention ensures that an operator can maintain some level of service to its customers even if it has lost a base station controller, including the ability to handle emergency calls.

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